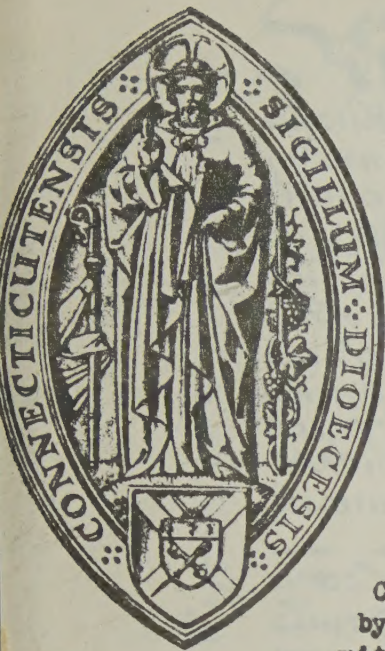


The Historiographer

of the Episcopal Diocese of Connecticut

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JOHN CROES, OF NEW JERSEY, ELECTED TO SUCCEED BISHOP JARVIS

At the thirty-third convention of the Diocese of Connecticut, meeting at Christ Church, Middletown, on June 7-8, 1815, the Rev. John Croes, of New Brunswick, N. J., was elected on the second ballot cast by the clergy. The laity immediately approved the action, and a committee was appointed to notify Dr. Croes of his election, consisting of the Hon. Samuel W. Johnson, Burrage Beach, Esq., the Rev. Philo Shelton and the Rev. Ashbal Baldwin. For some time, parishes in New Jersey had contemplated organizing themselves into a diocese, and fearing to lose Dr. Croes to Connecticut, they proceeded to elect him their first bishop. The following letter, written to the Rev. John Rudd, rector at Elizabeth Town, discusses the crisis; it comes from our rich collection of early letters:

N Brunswick 20 June 1815

Sir,

It has been in contemplation for some time past, to elect a Bishop for this Diocese And the Church here, think it highly proper that we should now be represented in the House of Bishops-- Doctor Croes has been elected Bishop of Connecticut, and should he accept the appointment, we shall not only lose one of the most respectable of our Clergy, but it may operate to defer to a distant day, the filling of that office-- We have been appointed by our Church to bring this subject forward and for the purpose of ascertaining the sentiments of other Churches, we have thought it best to have a meeting, by Delegates, at the House of Abel Clarksons at Milton on Wednesday the 28, June Inst. at 11 o Clock in the forenoon. We therefore respectfully invite a delegation from your Church to meet us, at the time and place above, to confer on the steps proper to be taken in the present crisis. And if it shall be so agreed, to give notice to all the Churches, that the Election of a Bishop will be moved at the Convention to meet at Trenton in August next

We are respectfully

Your ob^t serv^t

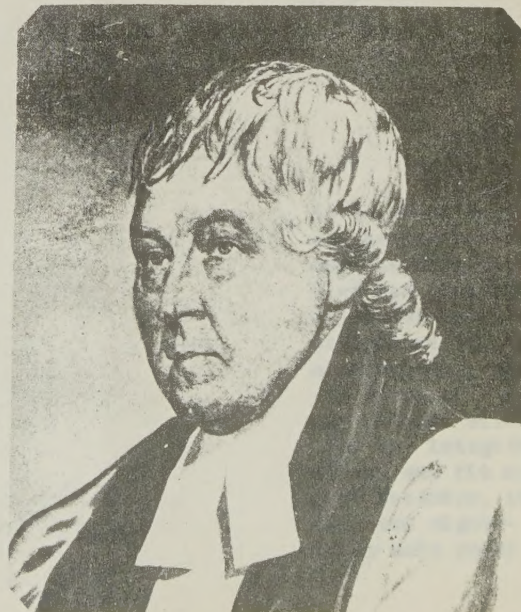
Rob^t Boggs

Isaac Lawrence

W^m P. Deare



WESTERN VIEW OF "POQUETANNOCK," PRESTON.
The church, built soon after 1734, is seen at the extreme right of the picture.



Registred in the Registry of London.

Richard by divine permission Bishop of
Carlisle To all to whom these presents shall come or
whom they may in any wise concern. *Know ye*
that at our diligent request by us with the aid
and assistance of almighty God at the request
and in the stead of the almighty everend father in
God Thomas by divine permission Lord Bishop of
London in his ecclesiastical palace at Fulham in the
County of Middlesex on Sunday the thirtieth day
of September in the year of our Lord a thousand
seven hundred and fifty three we did admit and
promote our beloved in Christ Samuel Leabury
according to the rights and ceremonies of the
Church of England in that behalf published and
provided, and having been well recommended to
his goodness for his good life and virtuous
attainments and proficiency in learning with a
sufficient time and having been also first
examined and approved by the Examiner of the
said Lord Bishop. In testimony whereof we have
raised the episcopal seal of London
to be hereunto affixed and the day and year above
written and in the seventh year of our Sovereignty
W. Belknap Minister

Rich.

Carlisle



NOTICIOUS PLACE NAMES INDEXED IN
HISTORICAL MAGAZINE OF THE P. S.
FOR their significance in
lican Church history. This im-
tant periodical deserves better
port from Churchmen than it is
eiving.

ANFORD. Hist. Mag., III, 287.

IDGEPORT. Hist. Mag., II, 21

ANAN. Hist. Mag., XII, 275ff.

ESHIRE. Hist. Mag., XII, 276ff.

NEHURY. Hist. Mag., I, 51, 65

REY. Hist. Mag., I, 71n. XII, 7.
XX, 182ff.

GRAM. Hist. Mag., XII, 275ff.

IRFIELD. Hist. Mag., XIII, 85ff.
XX, 184ff.

RMINGTON. Hist. Mag., I, 194

ENWICH. Hist. Mag., I, 54;
XX, 174ff.

ILFORD. Hist. Mag., I, 62n.

ODAM. Hist. Mag., XII, 275ff.

RON. Hist. Mag., I, 78n, 79, 81;
XIII, 85ff.; XX, 173ff., 179ff.

SE NECK. Hist. Mag., I, 54-55

LINGWORTH. Hist. Mag., I, 62n.

CHFIELD. Hist. Mag., XII, 7;
III, 221; XX, 179ff.

DDLETON. Hist. Mag., III, 59;
I, 62n, 196, 198; XX, 179ff.

V HAVEN. Hist. Mag., XII, 7;
III, 8, 120, 136, 141, 227-228;
XX, 175ff.

W LONDON. Hist. Mag., III, 133,
223; XIII, 85ff.; XX, 178ff., 403,
452-453.

W MILFORD. Hist. Mag., III, 57

W TOWN. Hist. Mag., I, 55; III, 221;
XIII, 85ff.; XX, 185ff.

THBURY. Hist. Mag., I, 71n.

RWALK. Hist. Mag., I, 54, 194;
XII, 7; XIII, 85ff.

RWICH. Hist. Mag., XX, 186ff.

W FORD. Hist. Mag., I, 71n.

ADING. Hist. Mag., I, 55; XIII,
85ff.

RIDGEFIELD. Hist. Mag., I, 54

SEARON. Hist. Mag., I, 58, 65

SIMSBURY. Hist. Mag., XII, 7;
XX, 179ff., 186.

STAMFORD. Hist. Mag., XII, 7; I,
51-56, 76; XX, 180ff.

STANWICK. Hist. Mag., I, 55

STRATFIELD. Hist. Mag., XII, 7

STRATFORD. Hist. Mag., III, 222;
VIII, 403; XIII, 85; XVI, 204
XX, 174ff.

WALLINGFORD. Hist. Mag., III, 56-57
XII, 275ff.; XX, 179ff.

WATERBURY. Hist. Mag., I, 71n.;
XII, 7; XX, 185ff.

WEST HAVEN. Hist. Mag., I, 71, 1.




WOODBURY. Hist. Mag., I, 113; III,
217, 223, 225, 227; II (June),
26.

BISHOP SEABURY'S CERTIFICATE OF CONSECRATION AS BISHOP

In the last issue of The Historiographer, we printed a facsimile of this important document, one of those recently discovered at the General Theological Seminary in New York. Thanks to Professor Albert Merriman, of Trinity College, we publish herewith an exact transcription and a faithful translation. Professor Merriman thinks that the Latinity of the last parenthesis seems doubtful, but the general sense is obvious;

IN DEI NOMINE AMEN

Omnibus ubique Catholicis per Presentes pateat----Nos Robertum Kilgour Miseratione Divina Episcopum Aberdonien. Arthurum Petrie Episcopum Rosser. et Moravien. et Joannem Skinner Episcopum Coadiutorem, Mystera Sacra Domini nostri Jesu Christi in Oratorio supradicti Joannis Skinner apud Aberdoniam celibrantes Divini Numinis Praesidio fretos (presentibus tam e Clero quam e Populo Testibus idoneis) Samuelen Seabury Doctorem Divinitatis, sacro Presbyteratus Ordine jam decoratum, ac Nobis prae Vitae integritate Morum probitate et Orthodoxia commendatum, et ad docendum et regendum aptum et idoneum, ad sacrum et sublimem Episcopatus Ordinem promovisse et rite ac canonice secundum Morem et Ritus Ecclesiae Scotticae Consecrasse Die Novembris Decimo Quarto, Anno Aerae Christianae--Millesimo, septingentesimo octagesimo quarto. In cujus rei Testimonium, Instrumento huic (Chirographis nostris prius munito) Sigilla nostra apponi mandavimus

| | | |
|------------------|---------------------|---|
| Robertus Kilgour | Episcopus et Primus |  |
| Arthurus Petrie | Episcopus |  |
| Joannes Skinner | Episcopus |  |

In the Name of God, Amen!

“To all Catholics everywhere by the present letter let it be known that we, Robert Kilgour, by the mercy of God, Bishop of Aberdeen, Arthur Petrie, Bishop of Ross and Moray, and John Skinner, Bishop Coadjutor, celebrating the holy mysteries of our Lord Jesus Christ in the oratory of the aforesaid John Skinner in Aberdeen, trusting in the protection of the Divine Spirit (there being present competent witnesses from the clergy as well as from the people) have promoted to the holy and sublime order of the episcopate, and duly and canonically consecrated according to the custom and rites of the Scottish Church, Samuel Seabury, Doctor of Divinity, already adorned with the sacred order of the presbyterate, and commended to us for the integrity of his life, the pureness of his morals, and for his orthodoxy, and fit and suitable for teaching and directing, on the fourteenth day of November, in the year of the Christian Era, the thousandth seven hundredth and eighty-fourth. In testimony of which, to this instrument (previously made ready for (by?) our chirographers) we have ordered our seals affixed.”

I do Declare that I will conform to the Liturgy of the Church
of England as it is now by Law Established
Samuel Seabury.

This Declaration was made and Subscribed
before Us by the said Samuel Seabury Clerk — to be Licensed
to perform the Ministerial Office in the Province of New Jersey in
America. # — # — # — this 23^d day of December — in the Year
of our Lord 1753. and in the Sixth Year of our Translation.

Thos. London

Thomas by Divine Permission Bishop of London To our
beloved in Christ Samuel Seabury — Clerk Greeting We do by these presents
Give & Grant to you in whose Fidelity Morals Learning Sound Doctrine & Diligence
We do fully Confide our Licence & Authority, to continue only during our Pleasure
to perform the Office of a Priest in the Province of New Jersey in America
— # — # — # — # — in Reading the Common Prayers
and performing other Ecclesiastical Duties belonging to the said Office according to the
form prescribed in the Book of Common Prayer made & published by Authority of Par-
liament & the Canons & Constitutions in that behalf lawfully established & promulged
& not otherwise, or in any other manner; (You having first before Us Subscribed the
Articles & taken the Oaths which in this case are Required by Law to be Subscribed
& taken)
In Witness whereof We have caused our Seal which We use in this Case to be hereto
affixed Dated the Twenty third day of December in the Year of our Lord 1753.
and in the Sixth — Year of our Translation

Thos. London

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you might have succeeded there, for the same reason that was once given by a bad painter who turned physician, "When I bandaged canvas (said he) everybody saw my blunders, but now I bury them all with my patients." It was that itch for authority, which your vanity kept in constant irritation, that induced you to act this part, and you deserve to be held up to the mirror of truth and reason, that your true features may appear, --

"For I'll hold you a goat, and I wish I could see't,
"If your stockings were off, you would show cloven feet."

Your profession, it is true, have much to do with knaves and fools, and it perhaps the habit of finding them out in the course of my practice, that has enabled me so easily to detect you.---- The consistency of my character will always induce me to expose you as much as I can, more especially as you happen to be a relation.

Bishop. I wish, Mr. Barebones, to be upon good terms with you, and with all men, even with old Dr. Ch-----y, and the whole knot of your brethren, the Whigs; but I cannot patiently submit to such opprobrious epithets and scurrilous language, which even in my own presence, you have so unprovokedly, and so indecently thrown at me; for the future, I expect better treatment from you, more consonant to that of a gentleman and a relation; but if you will go on railing at me like a mad man, I shall complain of you to my cousin your father, and request him to confine you, shave your head, and apply the cupping glass, or a good warm blister. On the other

hand if you will behave more temperately and decently in future, I will acknowledge you as my friend, take a cheerful glass, and smoke a social pipe with you at the next inn, where I wish we were arrived, for I find the entrails of the church begin to gnaw hard for something good from the spit and the pot. God bless us! Here is the inn ahead! All malice apart, friend Barebones; all malice apart.

Barebones. Thus like a thief in the night do you endeavour to coax the honest mastiff, who growls and will not permit the robbery; but it will not do, Doctor, I will not only bark, but bite too, and you shall be hunted down if it is in my power to do so; and I am sure I shall not hazard the displeasure of the greater and most respectable part of those who adopt the Episcopal form of worship in America, and who, not only in Boston, but from New York to Georgia, uniformly despise you, and refuse obedience to your pretended authority. You may suppose me mad or not, as you please, for I care not a fig for your opinion; This, by the by, is an honour you can never arrive at, for to lose one's senses is an implied acknowledgment that one had some to lose. Your fat brain will never be suspected to produce an idea beyond the absolute sensuality you so emphatically express on seeing the inn. Whether in religion you be really a christian or a materialist, I will not determine, but it is clear that your whole composition is an assemblage of Matter, and I am glad we have arrived at the inn, that I may breathe a little without respiring that disagreeable effluvia that proceeds from it.

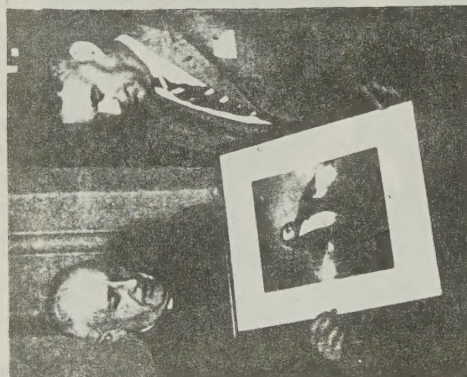
(HERE ENDETH THE FIRST LESSON.)

LETTER FROM SAMUEL PARKER TO THE REV. DANIEL MOGG at POMFRET
(In the letter collection of the Diocese.)

Boston July 17 1783

Dear Sir

Yours of the 2^d Instant I received sometime since & have replied thereto by a M^r Cady of Plainfield but suspect he is not yet left this Town; having sold a Bill of 25 St^g for Judge Lightfoot, he drew an Order on me for the Am^t in favour of this Cady & believe that he has not yet quite spent all the money, as soon as this is effected I suppose you will be in the way of getting my Letter by him. This morn^g yours of 14 was handed me, the Affair of your not waiting for me I finished in my last. I am glad to hear that the Matter of an American Episcopate is in such a probable way of succeeding. You ask my Opinion of the Measure. I answer I like the Plan very well & the Person pitched upon tho' personally unknown to me, from the character I have had of him, is the most proper of any. My fears are a little alarmed by the Circumstance of his being a Refugee; Any Persons coming into New England with complete Orders or in character of a Bishop I fear will alarm our Puritans & put them upon devising Means of preventing his carrying among us. Will they not then take the Advantage of the present Disposition of the Populace tow^d the Absentees & make Use of that Weapon to keep him away? And therefore is a proper Man could be found for that Office, would it not have been more eligible to have pitched upon one that was not an Absentee? As one Bishop would be sufficient for the New England States & New York, I could also have wished that all the Clergy in the five States had been consulted upon the choice, as that might have proved the Means of objection arising hereafter from his being rather imposed upon them than the Object of their free choice. The Dean & chapter of the Diocese with whom the Right of electing a Bishop is vested in England, must be represented in this Country by all the Parochial clergy within his Jurisdiction. However I am far from a Desire to start any objections to the Plan myself, but only hint these as what might have obviated any Objections that others may hereafter raise. I sincerely wish that the Plan may succeed even beyond our most sanguine Expectations, & that the Doctor may not be obliged to use the Alternative you say he is instructed to do. I have no Doubt in my own Mind that that if the Matter is properly conducted he will receive complete Or-



The Rt. Rev. Henry Knox Sherrill, 11 36, presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, left, accepts from President Jacobs, a photo copy of Trinity's portrait of America's first Bishop, Samuel Seabury, for display in the Seabury House Conference Center at Greenwich, Conn. The noted Seabury portrait, believed to be one of only two likenesses of the first Diocesan, hangs in the old library reading room at Trinity, on permanent trust from the Diocese of Connecticut.

ders from the ArchB^y of Canterbury by a special Mandate from his Majesty. But another question occurs how will he be supported? He certainly ought to have such a Living at least as will enable him to keep a public Table, for as his House must often be the resort of other Clergymen, he sh^d be enabled to treat them hospitably, & if he has only the Salary of a Missionary or a common Parish, he will not be in Circumstances to do this. He ought also to have a Curate or Chaplain whose business will be to examine Candidates for Orders & present them as well as to assist him in parochial duty. The Resolution of this must be an after Consideration.

We had a grand Commencement at Cambridge yesterday when the honorary Degree of Doct^r of Law was conferred on M^r Bowdoin & that of Doct^r of Physic on D^r Holyoke of Salem. I have had no late Letters from England which I a little wonder at as so many Vessels have lately arrived from thence. Please to make my best Respects to M^r Malone & Lady & Niece; I suppose they have received particular accounts of the Death of M^r Hutchinson which happened the very Day after I was at your House. Miss Betsy Hunter from Newport is now in this Town at D^r Lloyd's & I believe will spend the Remainder of the Summer here. Nothing special in the political World has occurred lately.

I am your friend & Bro[ther]

PS I expect to have the Fish ready to send by the middle or latter end of next Month.

S. Parker

